

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 OMB-01 AEC-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01

INT-05 SAM-01 OES-03 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /116 W

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R 311311Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7763

INFO USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0904

BIERUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, IR, IQ

SUBJ: IRAN-IRAQ TALKS

REF: (A) TEHRAN 707 (B) BAGHDAD 52

1. MFA MIDDLE EAST DIRECTOR CELIOGLU HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING
OVERVIEW OF RECENT IRANIAN/IRAQI DISCUSSIONS IN ISTANBUL:

A. BASIC ISSUES WERE SHATT-AL-ARAB AND KURDISH WAR.

IRAN'S APPROACH WAS THAT ONCE ITS DEMANDS ON FORMER PROBLEM
WERE SATISFIED, PARTIES COULD TURN TO RESOLVING KURDISH PROBLEM.
IRAQ, CONVERSELY, WANTED TO SETTLE KURDISH PROBLEM FIRST
AND THEN DEAL WITH SHATT-AL-ARAB. FURTHERMORE, WHILE IRAQ
WOULD BE WILLING TO GRANT VARIOUS UNSPECIFIED "FACILITIES" TO
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IRAN IN DISPUTED REGION, IT WAS UNWILLING TO CONSIDER AGREEING

TO IRANIAN SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE WATERS INVOLVED.

B. WHILE TURKEY AS NEIGHBOR OF BOTH COUNTRIES HOPES FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THEIR DISPUTES, IT DID NOT PLAY ANY INTERMEDIARY ROLE IN ISTANBUL TALKS ("PARTLY BECAUSE WE HAVE NOTHING NEW TO SUGGEST," CELIOGLU EXPLAINED).

C. PARTIES WERE ABLE TO AGREE ONLY THAT THEY WOULD MEET AGAIN IN A FEW MONTHS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.

2. CELIOGLU ALSO OBSERVED THAT WHILE TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH IRAN ARE GOOD, THEY HAVE SHOWN LITTLE MOVEMENT FOR SOME TIME. IN HIS OWN OPINION, VISIT OF HIGH-LEVEL TURKISH DELEGATION TO TEHRAN WOULD BE NECESSARY TO DRAW SHAH'S ATTENTION TO TURKEY'S NEEDS, WHICH HE SUMMARIZED AS MORE OIL ON BETTER TERMS AND PASSAGE OF GAS PIPELINE ACROSS TURKEY.

3. AS TO TURKISH-IRAQI RELATIONS, CELIOGLU NOTED THAT THEY WERE DEVELOPING WELL WITH NO MAJOR DIFFICULTIES IN ANY OF THREE MAJOR AREAS INVOLVED: OIL PIPELINE AGREEMENT, RIVER WATER SUPPLY, AND KURDISH PROBLEM. HE ADDED HIS PERSONAL HOPE FOR IMPROVEMENT IN U.S. RELATIONS WITH IRAQ.
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